

**AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT**

I. F. Thcomb of Norway always has apples. One year's crop lays by on to the new crop very similar to clappboards on a house, hence eatable apples all the year round. He will bring out of his cellar a dish of perfectly kept Red Astrachans in January, firm and well flavored, and Porter apples in the frog-blooming and May-flower-singing months of spring. Early Harvests, Fall Pippins, Rensselaers and Shadweights, and in fact all the other eat-me-quick varieties of fruit live from three to six and a half times longer in his cellar than in his neighbors' cellars. The usual varieties of late-keeping apples hold their flavor and are good eating for a week or more after the

gulous specimen of a natural fruit, locally known as the "Titcomb apple," or "Rock of Ages," will resist the destroying elements of the changing season from three to nine years, and be good to eat all the way along.

Now, being aware of the above facts, and having tested the quality of his apples a year ago last May and June, we recently delegated the editor of this department to make investigation as to his method of keeping apples and report to our readers.

The facts are these: the apples are packed in dry, kiln-dried river sand. The cellar is an extra good one for the preservation of fruit, hence the results as above stated.

Excelsior Grange, Poland, has the lumber on the spot to erect a line of

SHADE TREES.—I wish to say a few words in regard to shade trees. I saw in travelling over the County, a great many dwelling houses which have not one tree or shrub to give shade in a hot summer day. Nothing looks so dreary to me, as to see buildings without a single shade tree. How nice the lofty elm or the Rock maple looks in spring, when the thick foliage is putting forth, and the birds return from the south, perched in their branches singing merrily, who can say but what there is enjoyment in it.

How nice it is at noon to lie in the hammock in the cool shade, when the hot rays of the sun is shining down upon us. I would advise all who have no trees around their dwellings, to set out the earliest possible season.

The black maple, best, it has a heavier foliage, and when they get to be one foot through, they can be tapped and have sweet sap to drink, or it can be made into syrup; tap with a small cut, and it will not hurt the tree. I know of places where they set out black maples some thirty years ago, around dwellings, and on the roadside, the length of their lot, and they now make in a good season, nearly two barrels of maple sugar.

I have seen pastures without one tree for shade. This is cruel. Cattle should have shade, and it is but very little work to set out one half dozen in a pasture, put stakes and boards around to protect them until they are large enough not to be injured by the cattle rubbing them. If the spring is dry, they should be watered three

put them out

I think trees should be set far enough from the buildings, so as not to shade the shingles too much. I hope all who have no trees around their dwellings, will make the move this spring, and set out one dozen at least, and when they get so as to give good shade, you will say that it was a good investment. Try it.

BLACK MOUNTAIN.

The amount of seed required per acre varies in different places, and with different farmers in the same locality. The following is a medium quantity:

Barley, sown broadcast.....	2 bushels.
Buckwheat, or India.....	1 "
Beans for field.....	1 "
Carrots in drills.....	3 pounds.
Glove seed alone.....	12 "
Corn in hills.....	3 quarts.

.....	.....	..... pounds.
Root top.....	.....	" "
Timothy.....	.....	" "
Huegrass.....	.....	" "
Millet.....	.....	4 bushels.
Oats.....	.....	" "
Mustard.....	.....	" "
Beans in hill.....	.....	" "
Beans broadcast.....	.....	" "
Potatoes very exceedingly, w/g, lb.....	10	" "
Do for feed.....	2	" "
Do for grain.....	1	" "
Wheat.....	.....	" "
<b>Seeds in Drills or Hills.</b>		
Aspargus.....	an ounce to 69 feet drills.	
Buckwheat.....	an ounce to 58 feet drills.	
Beans.....	an ounce to 150 feet drills.	
Corn.....	an ounce to 30 hills.	
Cucumber.....	an ounce to 50 feet drills.	
Dandelion.....	an ounce to 50 feet drills.	
Eggplant.....	an ounce to 50 hills.	
Melon, musk.....	an ounce to 69 hills.	
Onion.....	an ounce to 100 feet drills.	
Peas.....	an ounce to 300 feet drills.	
Pumpkin.....	an ounce to 46 feet hills.	
Squash.....	an ounce to 59 feet hills.	
Tarney.....	an ounce to 105 feet drills.	
Beans, small.....	a quart to 105 feet drills.	

Cabbage.....	an ounce per 2000 plants.
Cauliflower.....	an ounce per 2000 plants.
Celery.....	an ounce per 2000 plants.
Lettuces.....	an ounce per 2000 plants.
Tomato.....	an ounce per 1000 plants.

The sponer say is manufactured after coming from the tree, the better the product. This is not new to many, yet there are always new people in all kinds of business, and most people incline to turn strict attention to only such matters as those in which they are directly interested.

Many farmers are learning to buy bone, potash, and other material, making their combinations to suit particular soils and crops. This is something that farmers are learning to do as a matter of economy.

As grafts are more likely to grow

Would be best to graft them after they have become well established by one year's growth. Take up good roots, pack the earth firmly about them when set, and shorten back the shoots and thin out needless ones early in spring, and they will make a good growth by another year. If these operations, however, are well performed, and copious roots secured, the grafting may be done the same spring as the removal, but the grafts will not grow so well as a year later, and there will be no gain on the whole.

If eggs are likely to be wanted for early hatching they should be taken in almost every hour during cold weather. A degree of cold not quite sufficient to freeze the egg or prevent it from hatching, still lessens its vitality.

chicken, which scarcely lives to attain a broiling size, or if it does live, it grows so slowly as to be unprofitable.

Henry B. Jackson of Georgia is Minister to Mexico. Sparks of Illinois is commissioner of the General Land Office. S. S. Cox Minister to Turkey. Gen. Joseph E. Johnson, Commissioner of Railroads. Gen. Lawton goes to St. Petersburg; Anderson of Wisconsin, Denmark; Ex-Mayor Kelley of Richmond to Italy; Edward Parker Cusis Lewis, Portugal.

Rufus Magee of Indiana, Norway and Sweden; A. Halle Gorge of Philadelphia, Greece; Edmund Juseson of Chicago, Berlin consul-general; Jarvis of North Carolina, minister to Brazil; Walter of Connecticut, consul to London; Isaac

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Consul at Manchester, Rhode Island.  
York goes as minister to China.  
Buch of Kentucky minister to Peru.  
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